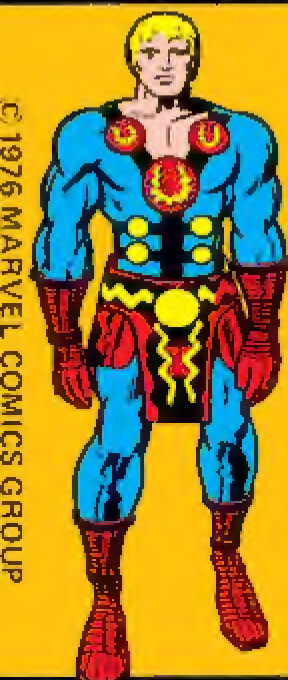
THE ETERNALS

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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WHEN GODS WALK THE EARTH!

THE ETERNALS™

HE CAN'T BE CONTROLLED!

HE CAN'T BE STOPPED!

HE'S...THE KILLING MACHINE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

THE ETERNALS!™

C-159

EDITED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY: JACK KIRBY	INKED AND LETTERED BY: MIKE ROYER	COLORED BY: GLYNIS WEIN	PERUSED BY: ARCHIE GOODWIN

WHO WERE THE SPACE GODS, WHOSE IMAGES ENGRAVED ON ANCIENT STONE TAUNTED US WITH AN AWESOME MYSTERY THAT MAY THUNDER TO LIFE IN TOMORROW'S SKIES?

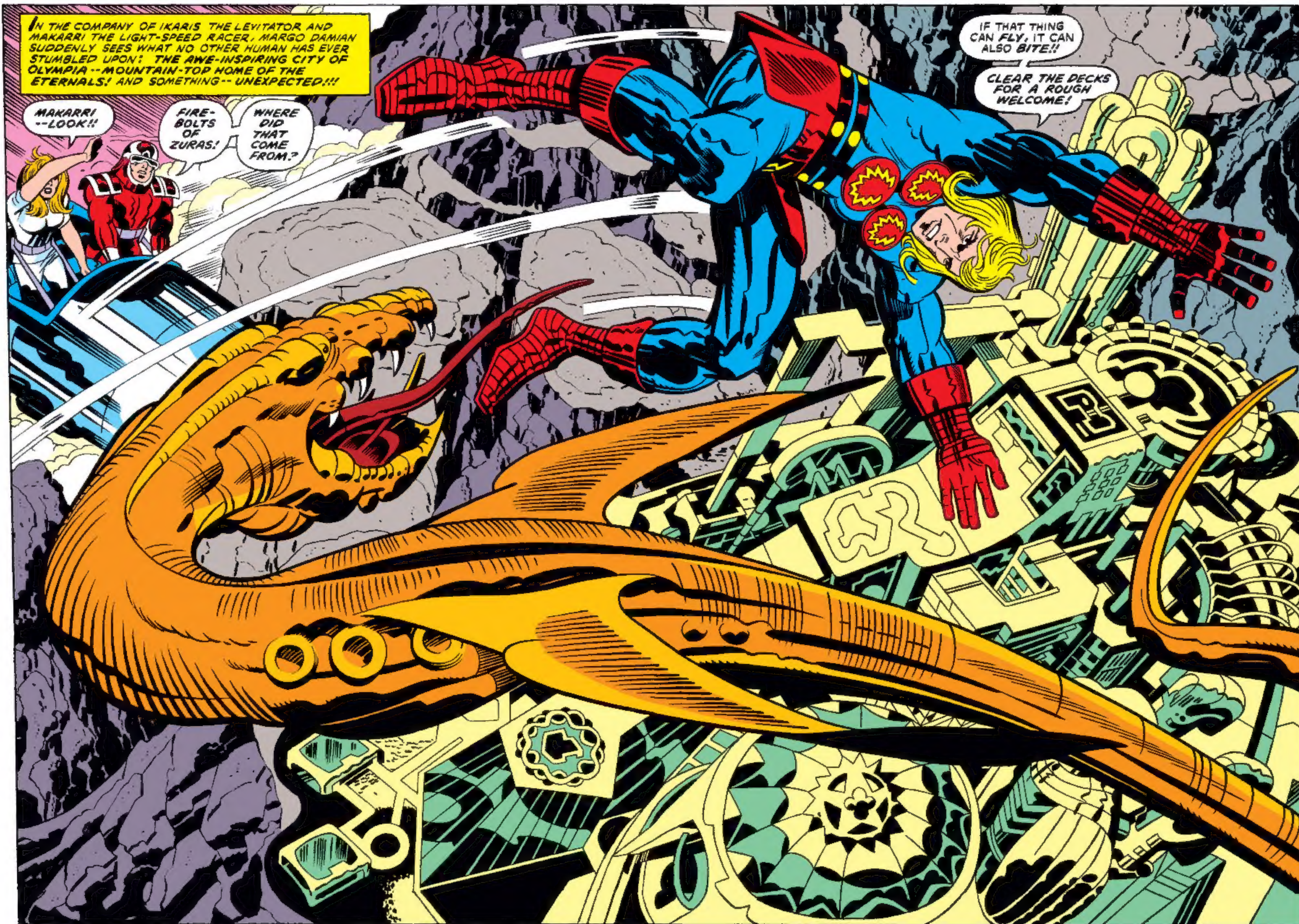
WHO WERE THE DEVILS AND DEMONS THAT PLAGUED THE FOOTSTEPS OF HUMANITY AND FILLED ITS DREAMS WITH TERRORS THAT LINGER TO THIS DAY?

WHO ARE WE? CAN WE BE THE TRUE INHERITORS OF THE EARTH -- OR ONE OF MANY SEEDS PLANTED BY CELESTIAL HANDS?

READ ON!! SEE THE FANTASTIC BECOME REALITY!! SEE--

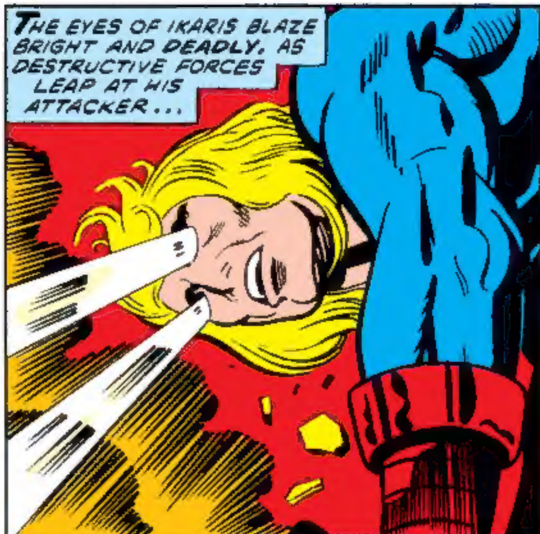
THE KILLING MACHINE!!

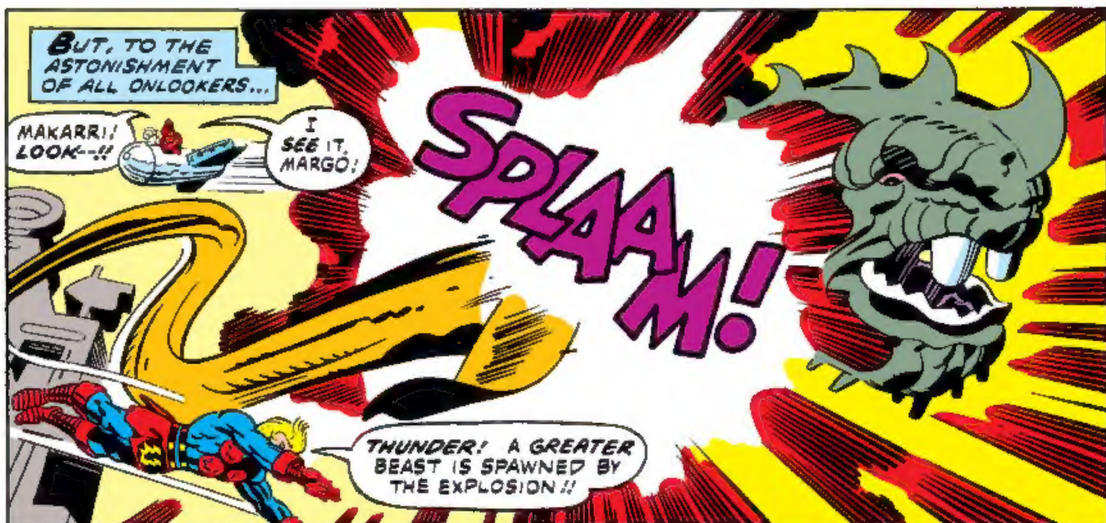




IN THE COMPANY OF IKARIS THE LEVITATOR AND MAKARRI THE LIGHT-SPEED RACER, MARGO DAMIAN SUDDENLY SEES WHAT NO OTHER HUMAN HAS EVER STUMBLED UPON: THE AWE-INSPIRING CITY OF OLYMPIA--MOUNTAIN-TOP HOME OF THE ETERNALS! AND SOMETHING--UNEXPECTED!!!
MAKARRI --LOOK!!
FIRE-BOLTS OF ZURAS!
WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?
IF THAT THING CAN FLY, IT CAN ALSO BITE!!
CLEAR THE DECKS FOR A ROUGH WELCOME!

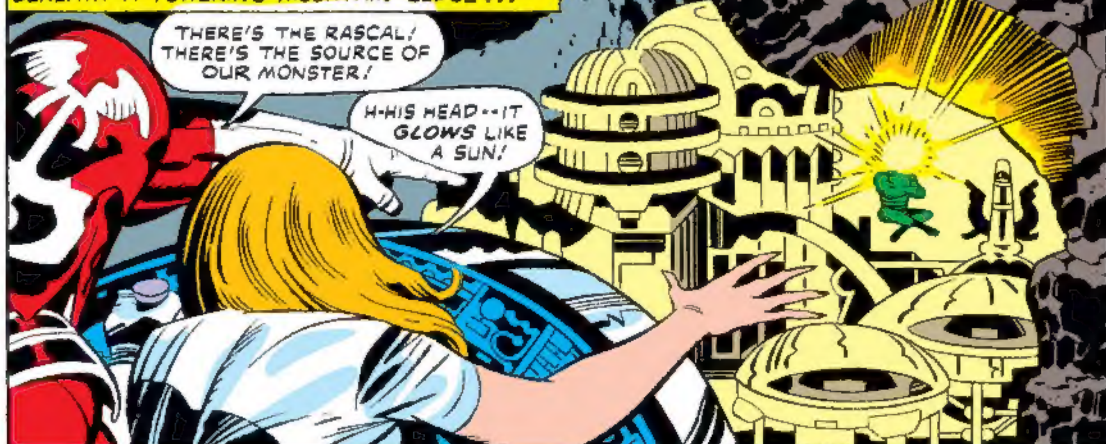

IKARIS SWIFTLY MANEUVERS TO ESCAPE THE JAWS OF THE LUNGING MONSTROSITY...
SEEING THE SIGHTS OF OLYMPIA IS NOT THE INSPIRING EVENT IT USED TO BE!!


THE EYES OF IKARIS BLAZE BRIGHT AND DEADLY, AS DESTRUCTIVE FORCES LEAP AT HIS ATTACKER...

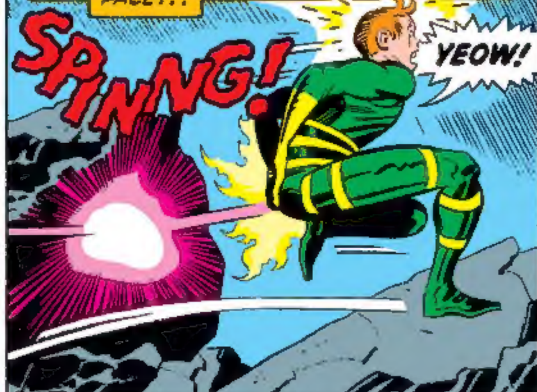

BUT, TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF ALL ONLOOKERS...
MAKARRI! LOOK--!!
I SEE IT, MARGO!
SPLAAM!
THUNDER! A GREATER BEAST IS SPAWNED BY THE EXPLOSION!!

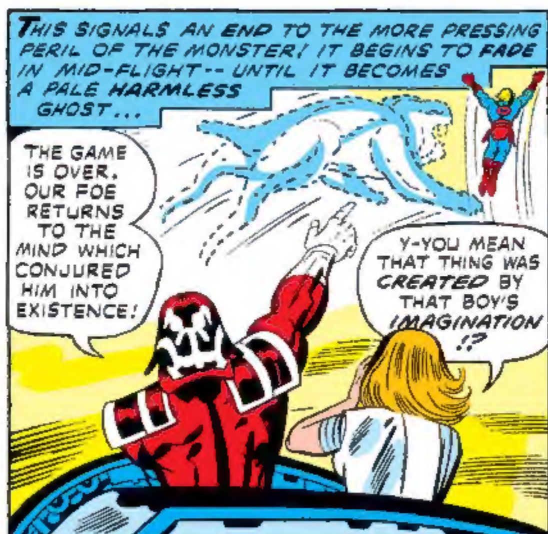

IKARIS IS SOON FLEEING A NEW AND MORE DANGEROUS PURSUER...
THIS HAS BECOME A GAME NOT TO MY LIKING!!

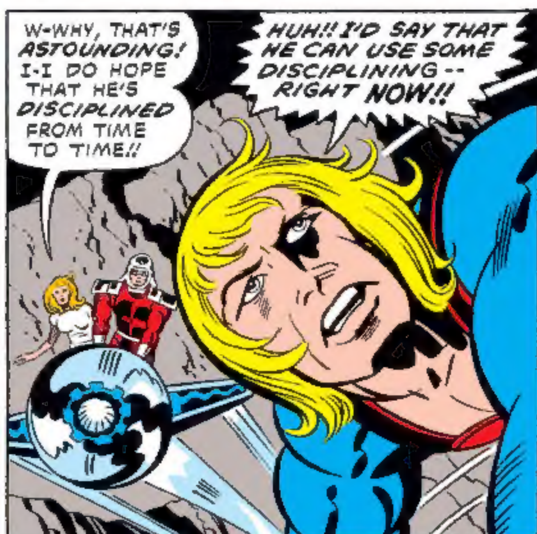

A GAME? IS THIS WHAT YOU OLYMPIANS CALL A GAME?
THERE ARE SOME AMONG US-- AND ONE IN PARTICULAR-- WITH WEIRD IDEAS CONCERNING THE STATE OF HUMOR!
TO RID OURSELVES OF THIS MONSTER, WE MUST SEEK OUT A SMALLER ONE!


MAKARRI'S VEHICLE BUZZES ABOUT LIKE AN ANGRY BEE UNTIL THE OLYMPIAN DISCOVERS HIS QUARRY IN A LEVITATED POSITION BENEATH A TOWERING MOUNTAIN LEDGE...
THERE'S THE RASCAL! THERE'S THE SOURCE OF OUR MONSTER!
H-HIS HEAD--IT GLOWS LIKE A SUN!

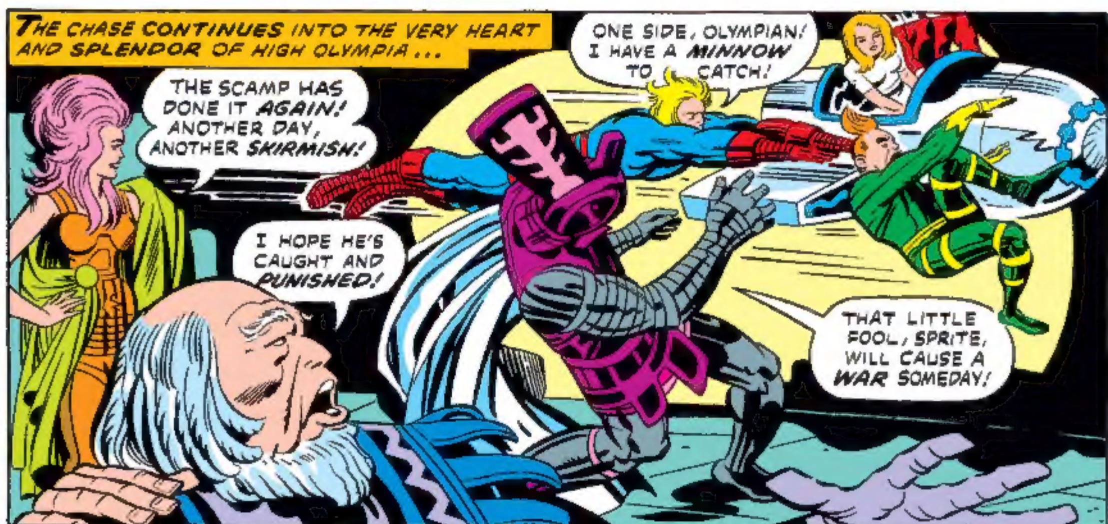

MAKARRI DRAWS A SMALL PISTOL-LIKE INSTRUMENT FROM HIS VEHICLE AND...
I'LL SOON PUT OUT THAT LIGHT! WHATEVER IMAGES IT CREATES FROM THE ATOMS OF THE AIR WILL VANISH, TOO!

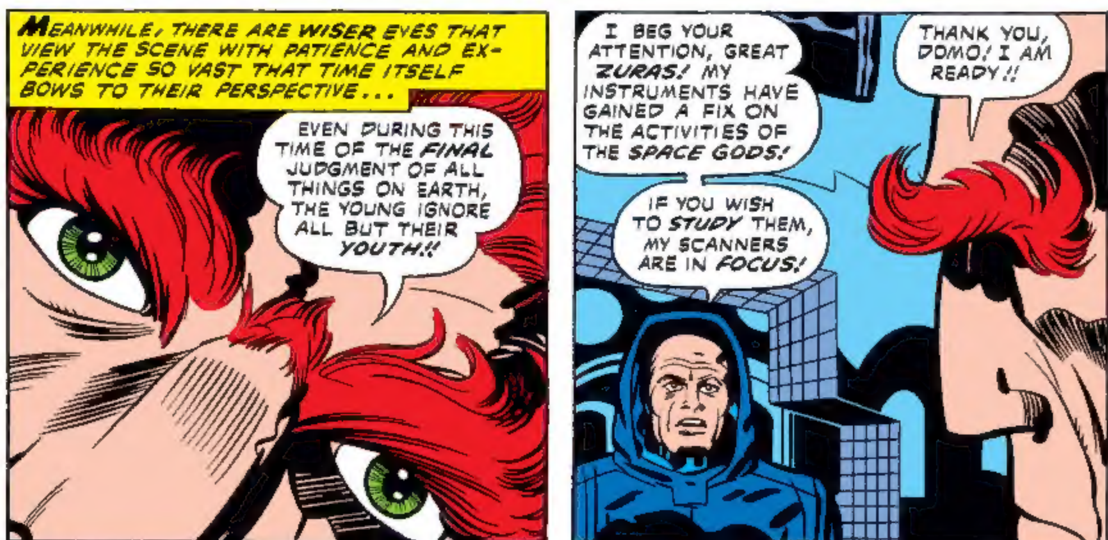

A THIN BEAM LANCES TOWARD ITS TARGET! IT STRIKES THE LEVITATOR IN A SENSITIVE AREA AND SNUFFS OUT THE NIMBUS EFFECT WHICH OBSCURES HIS FACE...
SPINNG!
YEOW!


THIS SIGNALS AN END TO THE MORE PRESSING PERIL OF THE MONSTER! IT BEGINS TO FADE IN MID-FLIGHT-- UNTIL IT BECOMES A PALE HARMLESS GHOST...
THE GAME IS OVER. OUR FOE RETURNS TO THE MIND WHICH CONJURED HIM INTO EXISTENCE!
Y-YOU MEAN THAT THING WAS CREATED BY THAT BOY'S IMAGINATION !?


W-WHY, THAT'S ASTOUNDING! I-I DO HOPE THAT HE'S DISCIPLINED FROM TIME TO TIME!!
HUH!! I'D SAY THAT HE CAN USE SOME DISCIPLINING-- RIGHT NOW!!


DESPITE THEIR NEVER-ENDING PURSUIT OF PEACE, ETERNALS ARE STILL SUBJECT TO SOME VERY HUMAN WAYS OF ACHIEVING IT...
SURELY YOU JOSH, DUMB ONE!!
SPRITE!! YOU ANGER AN HONORED GUEST! SUBMIT TO DISCIPLINE!!
IKARIS OF THE POLAR MOUNTAINS DOES NOT TAKE THIS KIND OF WELCOME LIGHTLY! HOLD FAST, YOUNG ONE!!


THE CHASE CONTINUES INTO THE VERY HEART AND SPLENDOR OF HIGH OLYMPIA...
ONE SIDE, OLYMPIAN! I HAVE A MINNOW TO CATCH!
THE SCAMP HAS DONE IT AGAIN! ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER SKIRMISH!
I HOPE HE'S CAUGHT AND PUNISHED!
THAT LITTLE FOOL, SPRITE, WILL CAUSE A WAR SOMEDAY!


MEANWHILE, THERE ARE WISER EYES THAT VIEW THE SCENE WITH PATIENCE AND EXPERIENCE SO VAST THAT TIME ITSELF BOWS TO THEIR PERSPECTIVE...
EVEN DURING THIS TIME OF THE FINAL JUDGMENT OF ALL THINGS ON EARTH, THE YOUNG IGNORE ALL BUT THEIR YOUTH!!
I BEG YOUR ATTENTION, GREAT ZURAS! MY INSTRUMENTS HAVE GAINED A FIX ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SPACE GODS!
IF YOU WISH TO STUDY THEM, MY SCANNERS ARE IN FOCUS!
THANK YOU, DOMO! I AM READY!!

ZURAS, FROM HIS MOUNTAIN-TOP, WILL SEE WHAT THE HUMANS ARE ALREADY WITNESS TO BELOW. IN A SOVIET WAR ROOM, A GREATLY ENLARGED PHOTO IS STUDIED...

THIS IS NO PHANTOM, COMRADE GENERAL! THIS IS A GIANT-- NOW AT LARGE IN THE SIBERIAN WILDERNESS!!

UNBELIEVABLE!! HAS THIS PHOTOGRAPH BEEN CHECKED FOR EVIDENCE OF SOME PRANK?!

THE PICTURE IS AUTHENTIC! WE ARE FACED WITH IMMEDIATE DECISIONS!

NEZZARR OF THE FOURTH HOST CREATES NO GREATER STIR IN SIBERIA THAN THE SIGHT OF ONEG, IN THE VAST HINTERLANDS OF AUSTRALIA...

THAT'S HIM, LADS! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY WILD STORY NOW!?

STAND CLEAR OF HIM! HE'S AN OUTER SPACER FOR CERTAIN!

A DINGO U.F.O.!

THE SPACE GODS OF THE INCA CARVINGS HAVE SUDDENLY RE-APPEARED TO CONFRONT HUMANS EVERYWHERE! HARGEN THE ANALYZER TREADS THE SWISS ALPS, MUCH TO THE CHAGRIN OF VETERAN CLIMBERS...

HOLY TOLEDO!!

WHAT'S T-THAT!?

CAREFUL! GRIP THE ROPE--OR YOU'LL DROP ME!

LOOK AT IT! LOOK AT IT!

BUT IT IS ESON WHO GENERATES THE MOST EXCITEMENT! IN MIAMI BEACH, SCORES OF BATHERS RUSH TO THE SURF AND STARE BREATHLESSLY OUT TO SEA...

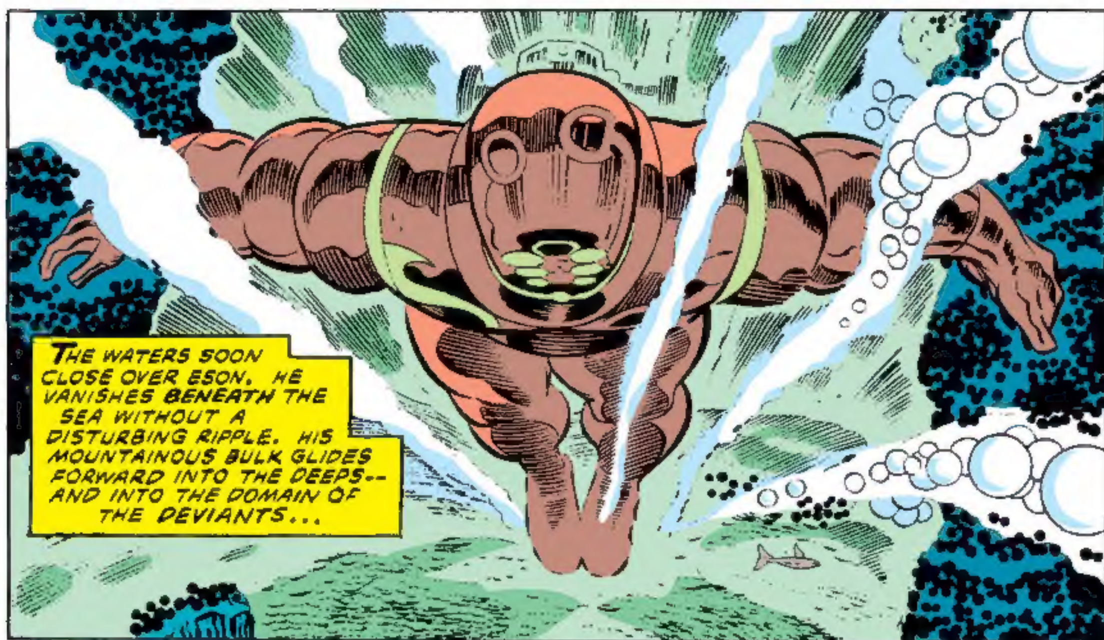
DON'T PUSH, LADY! YOU CAN SEE HIM AS WELL AS I DO!

B-BUT, IT'S A GIANT!

H-HE'S BIGGER THAN THAT OCEAN LINER SAILING NEAR HIM!

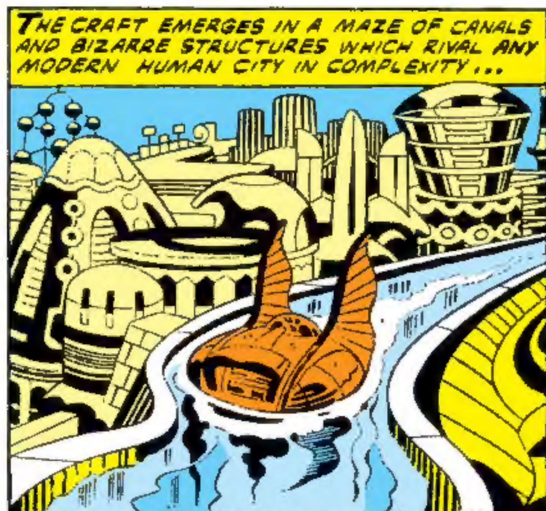
W-WHAT IS HE?? W-WHERE DID HE COME FROM??


ESON, LIKE THE OTHERS OF THE FOURTH HOST, IS A PRODUCT SPAWNED BY THE COSMOS ITSELF! IT IS SMALL WONDER THAT HE TOWERS ABOVE THE MARVELS OF MAN, FOR HE IS FROM PLACES WHERE MARVELS EXPAND TENFOLD, IN TIME CONTINUUMS TOO AWESOME FOR HUMANS TO BEHOLD...
I CAN'T RISK FLYING ANY CLOSER! HE MAY SWAT US OUT OF THE SKY!
ARE YOU DAFT? THIS CAMERA WILL GET A CLOSE-UP SHOT WORTH A FORTUNE!
RADIO THE COAST GUARD-- QUICKLY!
SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING!
DON'T GET HYSTERICAL. YOU'LL PANIC THE OTHERS!
WHAT IF IT DECIDES TO SINK THE SHIP?!
WHY DON'T THEY INCREASE THE SPEED AND GET US OUT OF HERE!
THAT THING ISN'T REAL! I HEAR THERE'S A MOVIE OUTFIT ON LOCATION THAT'S SHOOTING A SCIENCE FICTION FILM!
IT FRIGHTENS ME, HARRY!! PLEASE HEAD BACK FOR SHORE!


THE WATERS SOON CLOSE OVER ESON. HE VANISHES BENEATH THE SEA WITHOUT A DISTURBING RIPPLE. HIS MOUNTAINOUS BULK GLIDES FORWARD INTO THE DEEPS-- AND INTO THE DOMAIN OF THE DEVIANTS...


MILES AHEAD LIE THE RUINS OF ANCIENT LEMURIA-- A PROUD AND CRUEL CIVILIZATION WHICH FELL BEFORE THE WRATH OF THE SPACE GODS...


DESPITE THIS DEFEAT IN A BYGONE AGE, THE DEVIANT SPECIES HAS SURVIVED. ONE OF THEIR UNDERSEA CRAFT CRUISES BEYOND THE RUINS TO THEIR HIDDEN CITY...


THE CRAFT EMERGES IN A MAZE OF CANALS AND BIZARRE STRUCTURES WHICH RIVAL ANY MODERN HUMAN CITY IN COMPLEXITY...


PRIDE HAS NOT BEEN LOST HERE, AND CRUELTY IS AT ITS ZENITH-- FOR GREAT TODE AND HIS RULING FAMILY STILL ENJOY THEIR FAVORITE SPECTATOR SPORT! THE COMBAT TO THE DEATH!!
LET THESE PROCEEDINGS BEGIN!

MORE THAN MERE DEATH GAMES, THIS IS BUT ANOTHER FORM OF ELIMINATION OF THE UNDESIRABLE MUTATES THAT SPRING FROM THE DEVIANTS' UNSTABLE ATOMIC STRUCTURE...

THIS EVENT IS DEDICATED TO YOU, MY DEAR THENA! TO LURE AN ETERNAL FROM HER MOUNTAIN-TOP TO THESE REGIONS IS AN OCCASION INDEED!

I AM NOT PLEASED, GREAT TODE! THIS IS ANYTHING BUT A FAIR MATCH!

ER--FORGIVE HER, GREAT TODE! SHE CANNOT JUDGE THESE AFFAIRS BY OUR STANDARDS!

ENOUGH, THENA! ENOUGH!

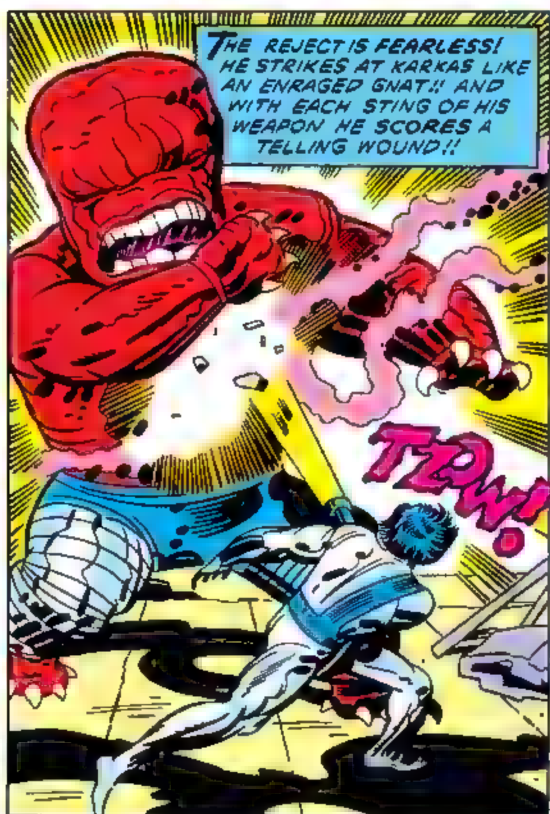
BEGIN! BEGIN!

THE REJECT TURNS TO HIS FOE! BUT HIS DEATH WILL BE SWIFT!

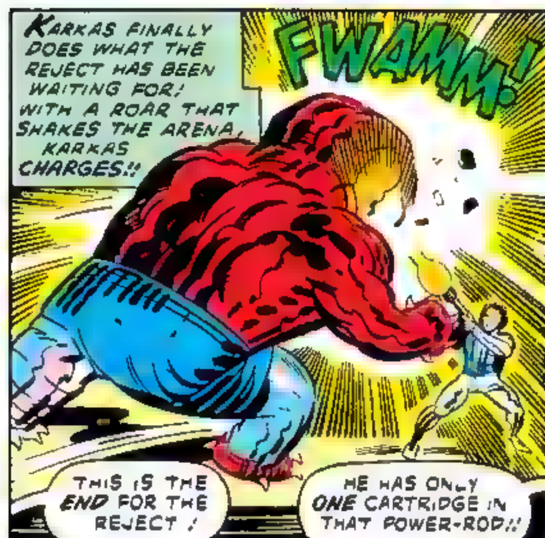
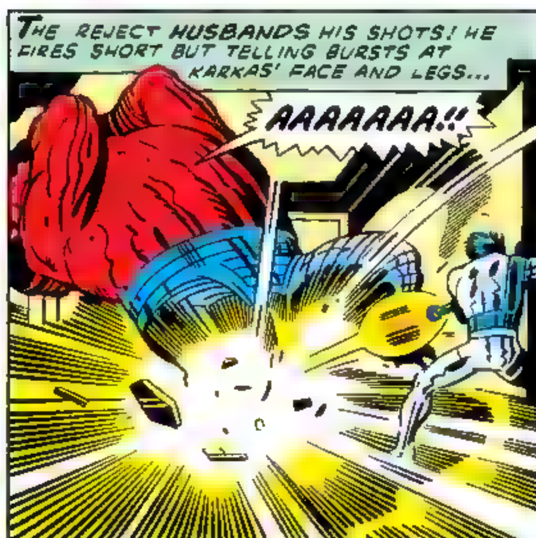
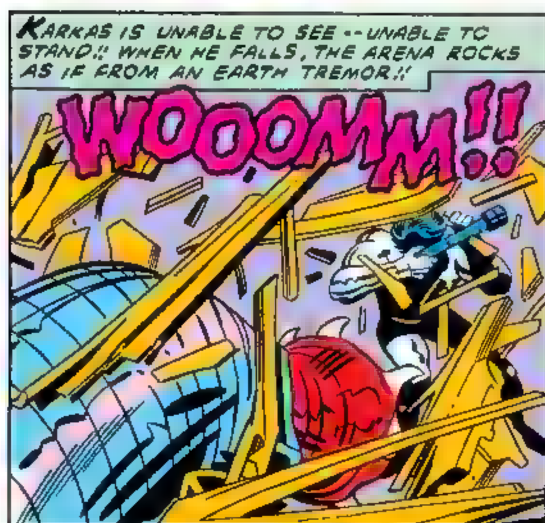


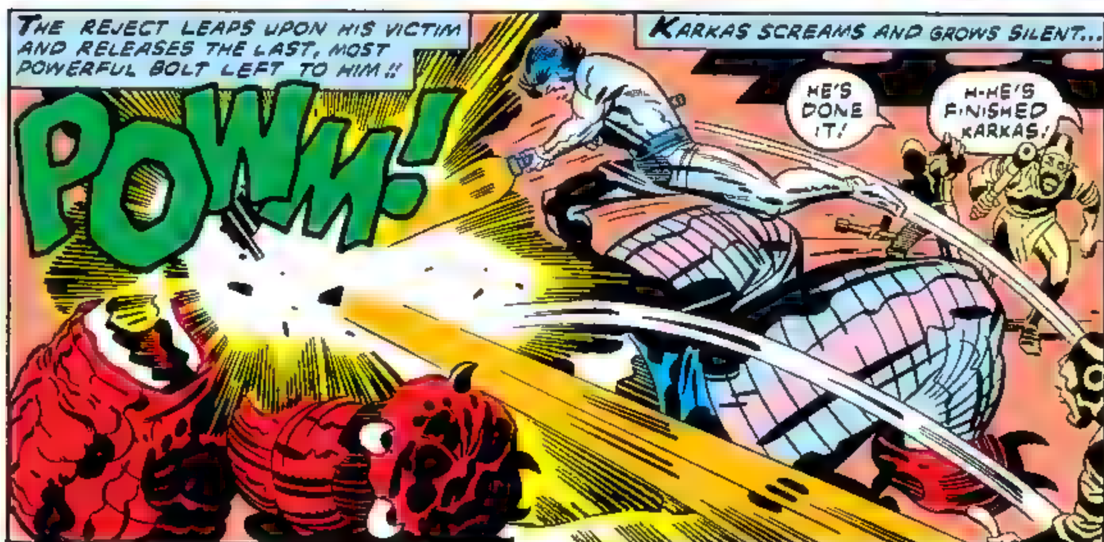


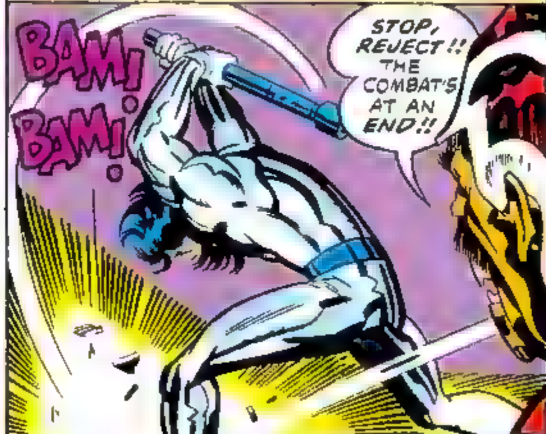
YOU WASTE YOUR SYMPATHIES ON AN OUTCAST, SWEET ETERNAL!
FOOLS! HE'S THE ONLY THING OF BEAUTY IN THIS UGLY DOMAIN!
THENA! SIT DOWN! WE CAN DO NOTHING!!
LET THE COMBAT PROCEED! THE REJECT CAN DEFEND HIMSELF!
BUT NOT FOR LONG! HAHAHA!





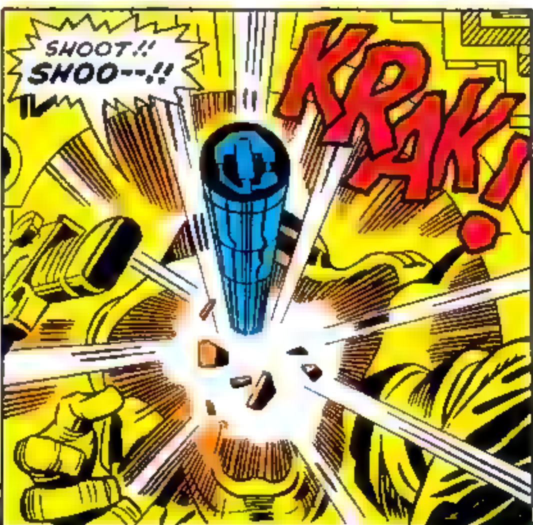

KARKAS FINALLY DOES WHAT THE REJECT HAS BEEN WAITING FOR! WITH A ROAR THAT SHAKES THE ARENA, KARKAS CHARGES!!
FWAMM!
THIS IS THE END FOR THE REJECT!
HE HAS ONLY ONE CARTRIDGE IN THAT POWER-ROD!!

THE REJECT HUSBANDS HIS SHOTS! HE FIRES SHORT BUT TELLING BURSTS AT KARKAS' FACE AND LEGS...
AAAAAAA!!

KARKAS IS UNABLE TO SEE -- UNABLE TO STAND!! WHEN HE FALLS, THE ARENA ROCKS AS IF FROM AN EARTH TREMOR!!
WOOOMM!!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE REJECT'S EYES BLAZE AND HIS JAWS DISTEND LIKE A CARNIVORE AT THE KILL!! A SNARL ESCAPES HIS LIPS!! HE RUSHES TOWARD HIS STRICKEN FOE!!

THE REJECT LEAPS UPON HIS VICTIM AND RELEASES THE LAST, MOST POWERFUL BOLT LEFT TO HIM!!
POWM!
KARKAS SCREAMS AND GROWS SILENT...
HE'S DONE IT!
H-HE'S FINISHED KARKAS!


BUT THE KILLING FRENZY IS UPON REJECT! COMBAT IS THE ONLY LIFE HE KNOWS! THERE IS TRIUMPH ONLY AS LONG AS IT CONTINUES! IT MUST GO ON -- AND ON -- AND ON...
BAM! BAM!
STOP, REJECT!! THE COMBAT'S AT AN END!!


THE REJECT CANNOT STOP! HE TURNS ON THE ARENA GUARDS...
YOU HEARD THE ORDER! PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPON!!
DO AS YOU'RE TOLD OR--
--WE'LL SHOOT!


HE WON'T OBEY! LOOK OUT!!
WHAT ARE YOU IDIOTS WAITING FOR!!?? SHOOT HIM DOWN!!

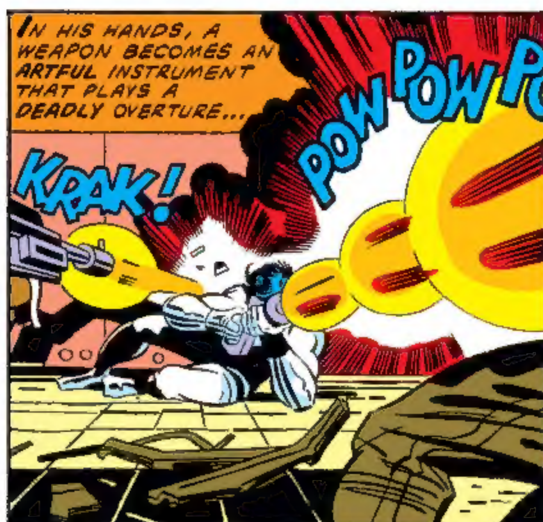

SHOOT!! SHOO--!!
KRAK!


THEN, THE REJECT IS UPON THEM-- USING EVERY REFLEX... EVERY TRICK THAT LIFE IN THE ARENA HAS TAUGHT HIM!
WAM!
UGH!


THE SURPRISED GUARDS ARE HURLED IN EVERY DIRECTION! ONE FIRES HIS WEAPON AS IT IS TURNED UPON HIMSELF!!
TZOM!


WE CAN'T STOP HIM! WE'RE NO MATCH FOR HIM!
CALL FOR REINFORCEMENTS --QUICKLY!!!
UKK--!


THE REJECT IS NOT ALARMED! HE IS IN HIS NATURAL ELEMENT!! WITH A WEAPON RIPPED FROM A FALLEN GUARD, HE MEETS THE NEW DANGERS...
KILL HIM!
HE'S RUN AMOK!!
POW!
POW!

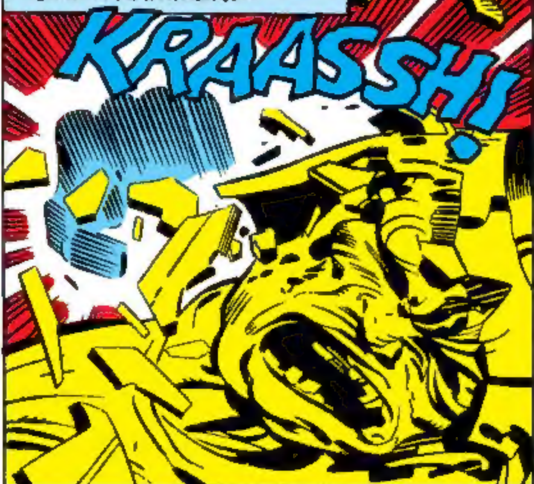

IN HIS HANDS, A WEAPON BECOMES AN ARTFUL INSTRUMENT THAT PLAYS A DEADLY OVERTURE...
KRAK!
POW POW POW


WITH UNERRING FLIGHT, EACH SHOT FINDS ITS TARGET!! THE NEW ATTACKERS ARE SHORTLY ADDED TO THE LIST OF CASUALTIES!
WAM! WAM! WAM! WAM!


MORE GUARDS ARRIVE! THEY FLANK THE REJECT AND RUSH HIM FROM EITHER SIDE!!
GOT HIM!
HOLD HIM! HE'S AS STRONG AS A BULL!


TO HOLD THE REJECT IS IMPOSSIBLE! HE IS A KILLING MACHINE THAT REACTS TO EACH NEW MOVE WITH PRECISE TIMING-- WITH PRECISE FORCE!!
AAAGGHHH!!


PRESSING HIS REMAINING ATTACKER AGAINST THE WALL, THE REJECT TURNS HIS TRAPPER INTO THE TRAPPED! THEN, A MIGHTY ARM SWEEPS BACKWARD TO GAIN MOMENTUM...
NO! NO!!


THE ENSUING BLOW STRIKES LIKE A HAMMER...
KRAASSH!

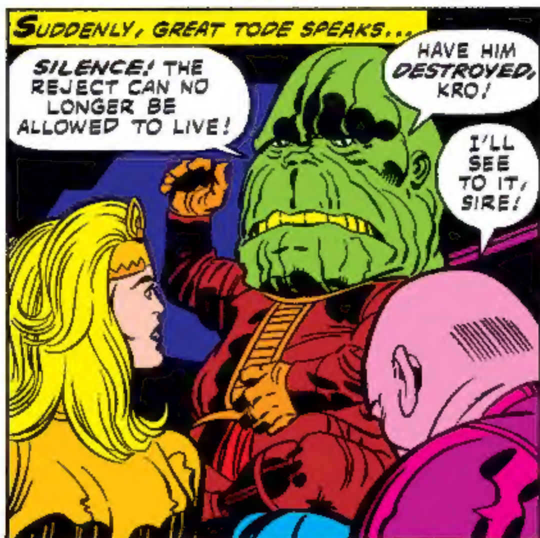

A GRIM HUSH FALLS UPON THE ARENA. THE ROYAL COURT SURVEYS THE CARNAGE IN DISMAY! THEY HAVE WITNESSED A SLAUGHTER-- BUT WITH TOTALLY UNEXPECTED RESULTS!

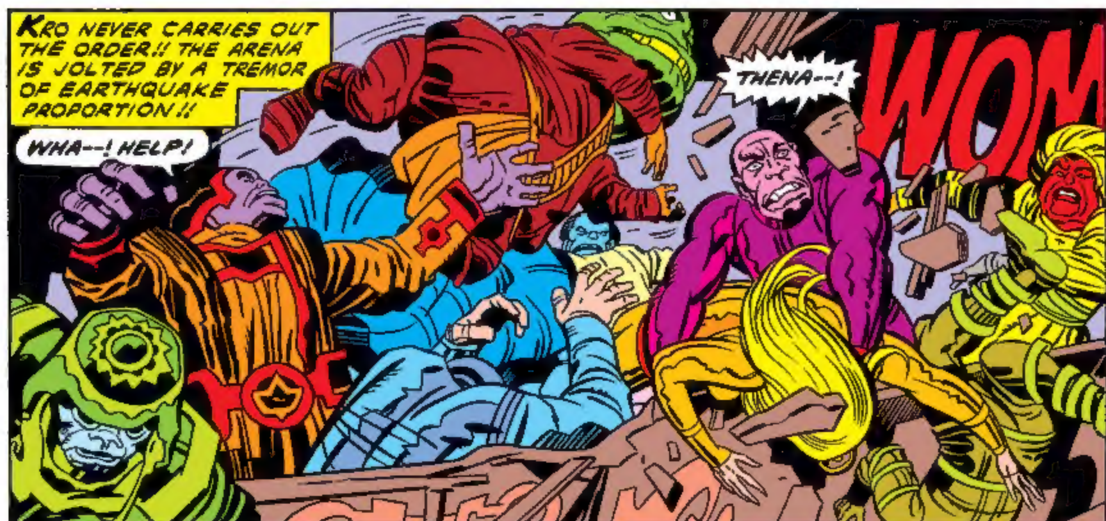

THE REJECT SLOWLY ADVANCES TOWARD THEM. HIS FEET TOUCH THE FLOOR LIKE THOSE OF A STALKING TIGER!!


HE LEAPS AT THEM -- AND STRIKES FIRE! A PROTECTIVE ENERGY SCREEN FLARES INTO ACTION SEARS HIM TO HIS MARROW!
AAAAA--!!
KRRAACK!

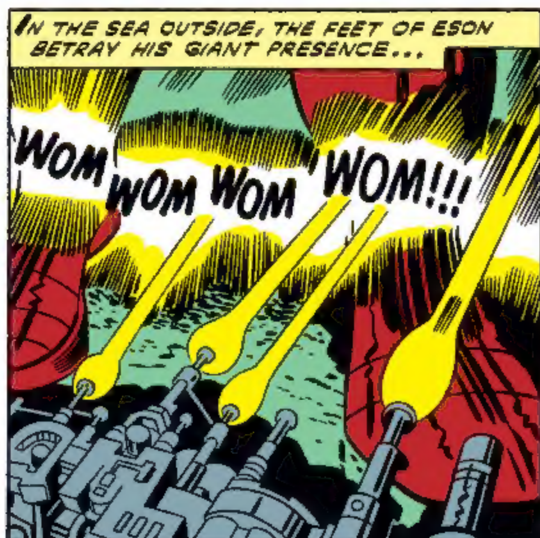

WHEN IT CLEARS...
THERE'S YOUR POOR LITTLE SACRIFICIAL LAMB, THENA! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM NOW!?
H-HE'S A DESTROYER!
I HATE YOU! I HATE YOU!!

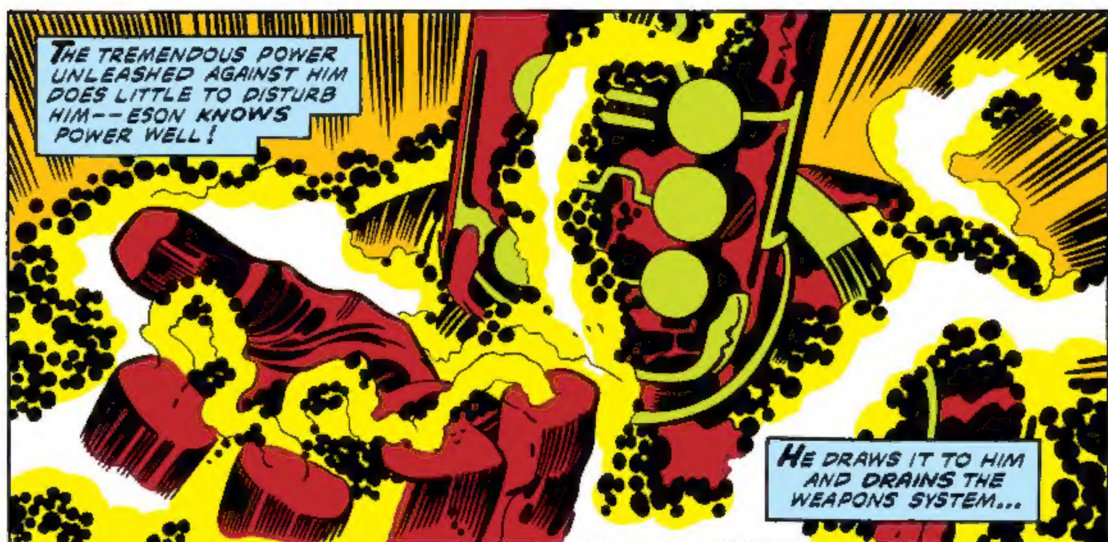

I'LL KILL YOU ALL!! YOU'LL SEE! YOU'LL SEE!!
BE THAT AS IT MAY, HE IS LIVING EVIDENCE THAT DEVIANT GENES HAVE SOMEHOW REACHED AN IMPROVED LEVEL OF CHANGE!!
POOR CREATURE! THE LOT OF AN OUTCAST HAS ROBBED HIM OF ANY WORTHY EMOTIONS!! I-I PITY HIM.

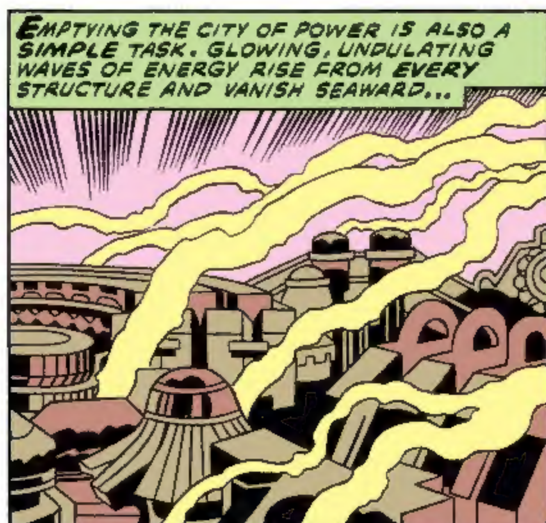

SUDDENLY, GREAT TODE SPEAKS...
SILENCE! THE REJECT CAN NO LONGER BE ALLOWED TO LIVE!
HAVE HIM DESTROYED, KRO!
I'LL SEE TO IT, SIRE!

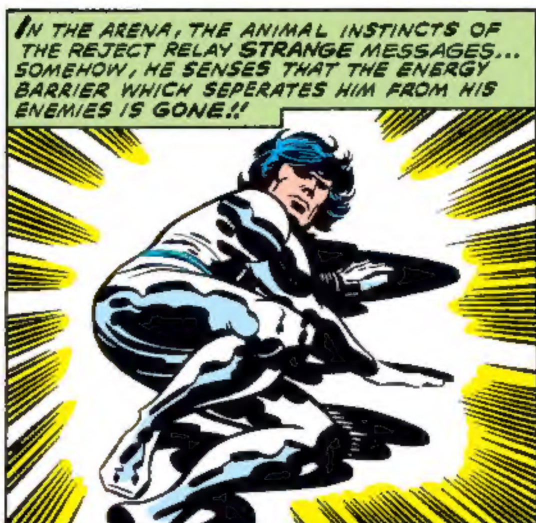

KRO NEVER CARRIES OUT THE ORDER!! THE ARENA IS JOLTED BY A TREMOR OF EARTHQUAKE PROPORTION!!
WHA--! HELP!
THENA--!
WOM


WOM WOM WOM
LISTEN! THEY'RE FIRING OUR PROTECTIVE WEAPONS SYSTEM! THE CITY IS UNDER ATTACK!


IN THE SEA OUTSIDE, THE FEET OF ESON BETRAY HIS GIANT PRESENCE...
WOM WOM WOM WOM!!!


THE TREMENDOUS POWER UNLEASHED AGAINST HIM DOES LITTLE TO DISTURB HIM--ESON KNOWS POWER WELL!
HE DRAWS IT TO HIM AND DRAINS THE WEAPONS SYSTEM...


EMPTYING THE CITY OF POWER IS ALSO A SIMPLE TASK. GLOWING, UNDULATING WAVES OF ENERGY RISE FROM EVERY STRUCTURE AND VANISH SEAWARD...


IN THE ARENA, THE ANIMAL INSTINCTS OF THE REJECT RELAY STRANGE MESSAGES... SOMEHOW, HE SENSES THAT THE ENERGY BARRIER WHICH SEPERATES HIM FROM HIS ENEMIES IS GONE!!


THE REJECT CAUTIOUSLY EXTENDS HIS HAND. IT PAUSES WHERE THE BARRIER SHOULD BE. THEN IT MOVES AHEAD, PIERCING DEAD SPACE AND NOTHING MORE...


HE IS NOW FREE TO WIPE OUT THE OBJECTS OF HIS BURNING HATE!! HE MOVES MENACINGLY FORWARD!!


WOW!
ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN NEXT!! EVERYTHING HAPPENS NEXT!!!
STAND BY FOR
"MOTHER"